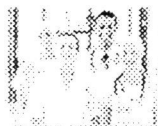



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## Legislative

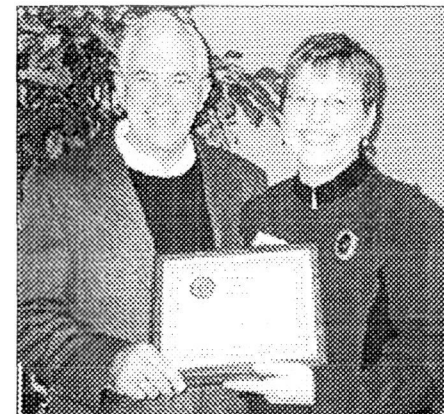
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### Senator George W. Della, Jr. Receives the MNA Legislator of the Year Award

The Honorable George Washington Della, Jr. was the 2004 recipient of the MNA Legislator of the Year Award at the 101st Annual Convention of the Maryland Nurses Association. Senator Della received this award from the MNA Legislative Committee for his support of the Registered Nurses of Maryland over the years, but particularly his steadfast efforts that ultimately led to enactment of S.B. 297 ~ "Nursing Homes, Notice of Change of Condition", in the 2004 Session of the Maryland Legislature.

State Senator George W. Della, Jr., was born in Baltimore on June 5, 1942. He attended Gilman School, Southern High School, the University of Baltimore and the University of Baltimore School of Law (J.D. 1972). He served in the Maryland National Guard (1965-1971) and was elected to the Baltimore City Council where he served from 1976-1983.



In 1983, George Della was first elected to the Senate of Maryland, taking the seat earlier held by his father, George W. Della, Sr., who had served as President of the Maryland Senate from 1959 to 1962, representing District 46, which now extends around the Inner Harbor and includes South Baltimore out to Catonsville in Baltimore County. Since 1985, Senator Della has been a member of the Senate Finance Committee and has also served as Vice-Chairman of the Rules (1995 - ), Executive Nominations (1984 - ) Tort and Insurance Reform Oversight (1988-1993), and numerous other Joint Committees of the Legislature.

Senator Della is pretty much a full-time Legislator involved intimately in constituent matters within his District. He maintains a farm in Carroll County, site of the famous Alger Hiss pumpkin patch and resides in a townhouse atop Federal Hill just a few blocks from his Legislative Office on Light Street.

Senator Della is noted for his outspokenness on issues he feels strongly about and staunchly maintains an

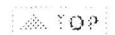
independent role in pressing for solutions to Legislative issues that come before his Committee. He has long been a champion of working men and women, the historic backbone of his District and has worked hard for his County constituency added during the last round of redistricting.

Senator Della has a long and diverse history of introducing and securing enactment of bills bettering the lives of Marylanders. Reform of election laws and lobbying practices, regulation of alcoholic beverage operations, pedestrian safety, affordable health care, corporate tax reform, needed bond authority for a wide variety of projects, transportation for seniors, assistance for Hurricane Isabel victims, solar energy grants, cervical cancer control programs, a People's Counsel for Insurance, retention of prescription benefits for State employees, juvenile justice reform, expansion of open meetings requirements, requiring insurance coverage for home visits after mastectomies, requiring Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program reimbursement for diabetes test strips, property tax relief for disabled veterans, employee access to information as to workplace hazardous and toxic substances are just a few of the types of legislation that Senator Della has sponsored or co-sponsored over the years.

Throughout his career, Senator Della has been a sympathetic listener to and worker for the interests of Registered Nurses and the patients they care for. Senator Della well knew that patient advocacy is the highest calling of the Registered Nurse and readily saw the necessity of truly informed decision making regarding a resident's care as elemental to that advocacy.

The MNA Legislative Committee, in making this award, want to recognize Senator George Della, not only for his sponsorship of S.B. 297, his securing the co-sponsorship of the entire Senate Finance Committee to boot, but also for his tenacity against great odds that ultimately resulted in passing a truly significant law – both for Registered Nurses and those they care for.

Approved by the MNA Board of Directors 11/03  
Maryland General Assembly



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